

**STRESS REDUCTION PACING FOR ARTERIAL
PLAQUE STABILIZATION**

Abstract

5 A method for stabilizing atherosclerotic plaque with the intra-myocardial portion of a coronary artery is presented. Pacing therapy is utilized to pre-excite ventricular myocardium near the site of a plaque and thereby mechanically unload the myocardial region. Such mechanical unloading results in less deforming stress being transmitted to the plaque during ventricular systole.

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